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(54) **Configurable power switch cells and methodology**

(57) In one embodiment, a configurable power switch cell methodology may include designing multiple power switch cells which may be assembled to form a set of power switches such as a power switch segment (20A-20E). The power switch cells may all be designed to occupy the same amount of integrated circuit area, in an embodiment. Accordingly, one cell may be readily re-

placed by another, even late in the design process, without disturbing the placement of surrounding circuitry. In an embodiment, the power switch cells may include the interconnect layers that connect between cells, and abutting the power switch cells may automatically connect the interconnect between cells. Accordingly, swapping one power switch cell for another may be accomplished by placing the cell. No routing work may be required.

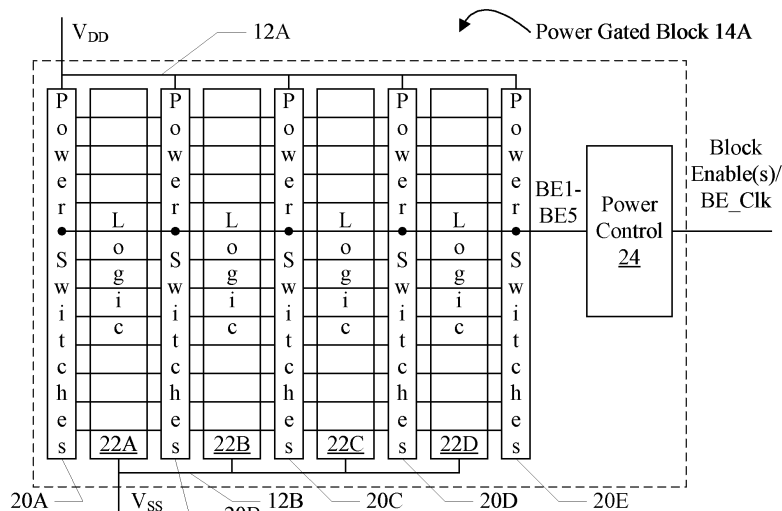


Fig. 2



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 11 17 9367

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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1	Place of search Munich	Date of completion of the search 19 September 2012	Examiner Martínez Martínez, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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